

<u>MINISTER CHRISTIAN S. WATKINS</u> is a third-year Master of Divinity candidate at SMU's Perkins School of Theology, serving as Perkins Student Association's Justice In Action committee chair and an active participant in student life and recruitment.

Originally from sunny South Dallas, Texas, Christian is a proud alum of St. Philip's Episcopal and St. Anthony's Catholic schools, and raised under the esteemed pastorage of St. Luke "Community" UMC where he now serves. After graduating from Jesuit College Preparatory Dallas in 2001, he received a Bachelor of Business Administration in Marketing from Loyola University New Orleans in 2005.

After ten years of flailing through corporate life, Christian's calling to ordained ministry was reconfirmed, and he vows to honor that sacred calling through The United Methodist Church's Order of Deacons. In the summers of 2016 and 2017, he ministered as a House Pastor for Project Transformation North Texas. He furthers his community advocacy through Faith In Texas and serves on the Community Bail Fund of North Texas Board of Directors. The Prophet Micah (6:8) reminds us of our duty to God and community through making Justice happen, loving mercy, and walking humbly with God, and that is exactly what Christian aspires to do.